

Stronger 551

Chapter 551: Three Hundred Earth Immortals Cover the Earth and Sky, The Mighty Five Elements Wanderer

Moments later, Lin Xuankong, Young Lady Lii Xiaolan, Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er, the Lin Family Seven Tigers, along with a dozen elite disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, floated to the grand square of the Spirit Peak where Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect resided.

In this gigantic square atop the flat Spirit Peak, thirty to forty thousand disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect stood neatly arranged. Among them, half were Immortal Sect disciples at Ninth-Layer Perfection, and the other half were their elite Immortal Servants, also with cultivation at the Ninth Layer or above. Everyone's expression was stern, each gripping their weapons tightly, their eyes glinting with killing intent.

As Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er, the Lin Family Seven Tigers, and the others looked down from the sky, seeing the tens of thousands of Tier Nine Cultivators exuding murderous intent, they couldn't help but feel a surge of emotion, a sense of impending battle appearing on their faces. Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er, Young Lady Lii Xiaolan, and the Lin Family Seven Tigers understood very well that these tens of thousands of fierce cultivators from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect were, in a sense, fighting for Lin Xuankong. If these disciples could be so devoted, how could their own hearts not burn with a fervent battle spirit?

After following Lin Xuankong and floating above the tens of thousands of Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect disciples, they all landed at the forefront of the formation.

At this moment, at the very head of the tens of thousands of Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect disciples, every Earth Immortal of the sect had gathered. Present were Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, its two Vice Sect Leaders, and its three Supreme Elders—Sui He, Qing He, and Cang He. Also present were several Third and Fourth Grade Tributors, and Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er, who was at the Third Grade of cultivation. Behind these prominent Earth Immortals stood Grand Chief Steward Huang Liutao of the Steward Hall, along with numerous Second Grade, First Grade, and Initial Tier Earth Immortals.

These Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect emanated various phenomena created by fluctuations of Immortal Yuan: illusory spirit cranes danced in the air, and various exotic beasts materialized, presenting an incredibly wondrous sight.

When Lin Xuankong flew over, the tens of thousands of Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect disciples, including the many Earth Immortals, immediately focused their gaze on him.

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect showed an anxious expression upon seeing Lin Xuankong arrive. He turned to glance at Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er, who stood not far away. This Sect Leader evidently did not want Lin Xuankong to participate in this great war...

Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er raised her eyebrows slightly and sent a voice transmission, "I already told Tributor Mu to go find Qu Qiao'Er. He's the one who refused and insisted on participating in this great war. What could I do about it?"

Sect Leader Li frowned, sighed, and approached Lin Xuankong. "Tributor Mu," he began, "the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and the Five Elements Immortal Sect have gathered over two hundred Earth Immortals. If negotiations fail, a great war is inevitable. Although our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect has the Sect Protection Array, and we've spent tens of thousands of years preparing countless small and medium-sized arrays, we are still facing over two hundred Earth Immortals. If this war truly breaks out, the outcome will be uncertain. Why must you insist on staying here?"

The three white-haired Supreme Elders of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect also shook their heads in unison. The Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect had mobilized its full strength this time to confront the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, the Five Elements Immortal Sect, the Profound Pure Immortal Sect, and the Guangqing Immortal Sect. Their primary reason was to keep Lin Xuankong in their sect, thereby creating the conditions for its future rise. However, the number of Earth Immortals gathered by the opposing side this time was simply overwhelming. Even if the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect had made perfect preparations, victory was not guaranteed. This was especially true if the Sect Protection Array were breached, which would lead to a bloody close-quarters battle. At that point, not even the three Supreme Elders could guarantee Lin Xuankong's safety from capture.

The disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect also shook their heads repeatedly as they looked at Lin Xuankong.

Seeing this, Lin Xuankong's expression became resolute. He turned to the tens of thousands of Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect disciples and, gathering his True Qi, announced in a clear, loud voice:

"I, Mu Shiba, have only joined the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect for a few days. I was favored by Sect Leader Li and the esteemed seniors and fellow disciples of the Immortal Sect to become the First Tributor!

"I hold the position of First Tributor. I enjoy the First Spirit Peak, which has the richest Immortal Yuan, and I utilize the resources of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. I bask in glory that no other Transcendence Realm cultivator has ever experienced... However, I, Mu Shiba, have yet to bring significant benefits to the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. Instead, I have brought about a crisis!

"The Fire Spirit Immortal Sect has now gathered many Earth Immortals. Since the esteemed seniors of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect dare to challenge the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and the Five Elements Immortal Sect for my sake—for Mu Shiba—and since my fellow disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect dare to challenge those powerful Earth Immortals for me, how could I, Mu Shiba, possibly retreat at such a critical moment?

"In this battle, you all can fight to the death, and I, Mu Shiba, can also rise with my sword!

"Furthermore, I, Mu Shiba, guarantee here and now: regardless of victory or defeat, no matter the outcome, my Artifact Refining Technique will be used exclusively for the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect! The Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, the Five Elements Immortal Sect, the Profound Pure Immortal Sect, and the Guangqing Immortal Sect are deluding themselves if they think they can coerce me, Mu Shiba, into refining artifacts for them. That is pure wishful thinking!"

As soon as Lin Xuankong finished speaking, the eyes of the tens of thousands of Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect disciples present flickered, and the battle intent on their faces grew even stronger.

The numerous Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, including the three Supreme Elders, the two Vice Sect Leaders, several Tributors, and Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er, all nodded repeatedly in approval, their eyes showing clear signs of appreciation.

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The Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's grand mobilization this time was partly to display its majesty. Having been established for tens of thousands of years, how could the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect possibly cower and surrender without a fight due to threats from other Immortal Sects like the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect? If they truly surrendered without a fight, how would the disciples and Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect be ridiculed and belittled by others outside?

On the other hand, it was also to protect Mu Shiba! This was not just for the future rise of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, but more importantly, to retain true talent!

After all, all Cultivators knew that Mu Shiba staying at the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect was his own choice.

If the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect were to hand over Mu Shiba today to please other Immortal Sects, then in the future, if another Mu Shijiu specializing in Alchemy, a Mu Ershi specializing in Array Formation, a Mu Shiqi specializing in raising Spiritual Beasts, or a Mu Shiliu specializing in planting Spirit Grass appeared, would they also have to be handed over at the command of other Immortal Sects? If it always happened this way, how would the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect attract talent from all over the world to join? What Earth Immortal or genius would be willing to join an Immortal Sect that could easily sell out its own Tributors?

Therefore, Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and the three Supreme Elders were extremely unanimous in their opinion: no matter how many Earth Immortals the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and Five Elements Immortal Sect gathered, this time, the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect absolutely could not bow down!

If they bowed their heads this time, the morale of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect would scatter, and it would be extremely difficult to raise their heads again in the future!

However, what everyone was most concerned about was what Mu Shiba, the top Tributor of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, thought about this matter!

After all, with Mu Shiba's Artifact Refining Technique and the large number of Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts he possessed, he did not necessarily have to stay in the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. With his ability to refine Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, any Immortal Sect in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region would immediately invite him to join and offer him extremely generous conditions if he merely spoke up.

Therefore, the Earth Immortals and countless disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect were most worried. What if there was a problem in this battle? This Tributor Mu might be forced by threats to defect to other Immortal Sects or be controlled by Immortal Sects like the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and the Five Elements Immortal Sect!

Now, Lin Xuankong's words reached the ears of many disciples and Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, causing everyone to feel relieved and greatly boosting their fighting spirit and morale!

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, at the Fifth Grade Late Stage, had an extremely excited look on his face as he nodded heavily towards Lin Xuankong.

"Good, good, good! With Tributor Mu's words, the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect will not hesitate to engage in a great battle with the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect for years, or even ignite countless wars among the Immortal Sects in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region from this point on! With Tributor Mu's words, even if I, Old Li, perish in this battle, I will have no regrets! HAHAAAA!"

After a hearty laugh, Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect glanced at Grand Elder Sui He. Seeing Grand Elder Sui He nod slightly, Sect Leader Li immediately gathered his Immortal Yuan and shouted loudly, "All Earth Immortals and disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, listen to my command! Those who have their duties assigned, return to your designated Array positions and prepare to activate the various Arrays to strike the enemy hard! The rest of the Earth Immortals and disciples, follow me to the Thirty-Sixth Spirit Peak to meet the enemy! This time, our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect will show the countless Cultivators of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region that this Immortal Sect, with its tens of thousands of years of legacy, cannot be oppressed by the likes of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and the Five Elements Immortal Sect, nor can we be suppressed by anyone who desires to do so! Any Evil Dao that dares to challenge the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect will surely perish in this battle, their souls scattered!"

With these words from Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, tens of thousands of disciples and Immortal Servants immediately cheered aloud!

Tens of thousands of Tier Nine Cultivators cheering in unison created an immensely stirring scene. The vast area where the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect was located began to tremble slightly. The Thirty-six Spirit Peaks and the countless small mountains and peaks within the Immortal Sect's range echoed with the cries of spiritual birds and the roars of Spiritual Beasts!

At the Spirit Peak where the Steward Hall was located, two giant Immortal Cranes with wingspans of ten thousand zhang suddenly rose into the sky—none other than the two Crane Ancestors that had existed in the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect for tens of thousands of years!

Immediately after, nearly half of the Earth Immortals and disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect activated their Immortal Yuan and True Qi, flying towards their pre-arranged positions!

In an instant, intense sounds of rushing air erupted in every direction as the silhouettes of Cultivators floated and flew in all directions, creating white ripples in the air!

The remaining Earth Immortals and disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect all floated up, lining up behind Sect Leader Li, and headed towards the array gate of the Sect Protection Array, in the direction of the Thirty-Sixth Spirit Peak!

Lin Xuankong floated beside Sect Leader Li, watching the Earth Immortals and disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect moving through the air, a touch of excitement also showing in his eyes.

Even though he had only joined the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect for a few days, the Immortal Sect had treated him, this Tributor, with utmost respect and care. Whether it was the materials for Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts given by Sect Leader Li or the ten Immortal Ascension Treasure Pills promised by Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er, all were extremely precious items!

Chapter 553: Three Hundred Earth Immortals Cover the Land and Sky, the Formidable Earth Immortal Five Elements Wanderer_3

Now, the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, for his sake, had mobilized tens of thousands of disciples and all its Earth Immortals to engage in a massive battle against dozens of other Immortal Sects. They were about to face hundreds of Earth Immortals. Once the Sect Protection Array was broken, who knew how many of the Earth Immortals and Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect disciples currently floating behind him would perish, their Dao extinguished, and their hundreds, thousands, or even tens of thousands of years of cultivation would come to naught!

And all of this is largely because of me! Of course, the reason they value me so much is undoubtedly because of my displayed artifact refining technique. But so what? At the very least, the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, although somewhat domineering, is far more righteous compared to the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and other Immortal Sects!

Thinking of this, a strong battle intent gradually rose in Lin Xuankong's eyes.

「After the time it takes to drink a cup of tea,」

the numerous Earth Immortals and disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect had all flown to the summit platform of the Thirty-Sixth Spirit Peak. Subsequently, these Earth Immortals and Immortal Sect disciples, along with Lin Xuankong and Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect who stood together, all turned their gazes westward.

At this moment, through the transparent barrier of the exceedingly thick Sect Protection Array, everyone could clearly see a vast expanse of clouds drifting over from the direction of the Spiritual Crane Immortal City! These hundreds of clouds approached from the west. Each cloud spanned several thousand zhang in diameter and was incredibly dense. Hundreds of these massive clouds linked together, nearly blanketing the entire western sky. Beneath these clouds, it was so dark that day had turned to night!

Most astonishingly, atop each gigantic cloud stood an Earth Immortal thousands of zhang tall! Hundreds of clouds, each thousands of zhang wide, and hundreds of Earth Immortals, who had activated their Immortal Bodies to stand thousands of zhang tall, were all drifting in unison towards the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's location. This spectacle was far beyond what "blotting out the sky and covering the earth" could describe!

As this scene unfolded before Lin Xuankong's eyes, his expression couldn't help but shift.

Even though he prided himself on being fully prepared, the sight of hundreds of Earth Immortals, each thousands of zhang tall, blotting out the sky as they approached, still caused an irrepressible sense of oppression to well up in his heart! After all, these were all Earth Immortals who possessed wondrous abilities, nearly indestructible Golden Cores, and terrifying Immortal Bodies! Each of these advancing Earth Immortals, if they so wished, could effortlessly slay dozens, even hundreds, of Ninth-Layer Perfection Cultivators with a mere wave of their hand. To them, Tier Nine Cultivators capable of soaring through the sky and burrowing into the earth were no different from ants!

At this moment, it wasn't just Lin Xuankong who felt a sense of pressure watching this scene; the Earth Immortals and disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect also revealed deep apprehension in their eyes. Even the three Supreme Elders of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect—those with the most profound cultivation and the longest lifespans—wore solemn expressions, their pupils slightly constricted. These three Grand Elders—Sui He, Qing He, and Cang He—were all ancient beings who had lived for over ten thousand years and had naturally witnessed countless grand spectacles. Yet, despite their vast experience over ten millennia, they had never before seen a scene of hundreds of Earth Immortals arriving in such unison!

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, gazing at the 'dark clouds' obscuring the western sky, felt the corner of his eye twitch slightly as he sneered, "I always thought Flaming Blade Duan River had always been a tyrant, committing all sorts of misdeeds, and had long since earned a vile reputation in the Western Region of the Central Divine Dynasty! Who could have imagined, who could have imagined that he, like a single mouse dropping spoiling the soup, could actually stir up such a huge commotion? Heh, over three hundred Earth Immortals... I'm afraid ninety percent of the Immortal Sects in the Western Region of the Central Divine Dynasty have sent their Earth Immortals here!"

A sharp glint flashed in Grand Elder Sui He's eyes, and he then said in a solemn tone, "Sect Leader Duan Yucheng of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and its four late-stage Fifth Grade Grand Elders are among them. The three late-stage Fifth Grade Sect Leaders from the Five Elements Immortal Sect, and its six Fifth Grade Perfection Supreme Elders are also present. Furthermore, numerous Fifth Grade cultivation Sect Leaders and Elders from the Profound Pure Immortal Sect and the Guangqing Immortal Sect have all arrived! Hmph! These old codgers... I haven't seen most of them for several thousand years, yet this time, they've all scurried over!"

Elder Qing He, standing beside Grand Elder Sui He, said coldly, "It's good that they've all come! Ever since the Western Region of the Central Divine Dynasty united to battle the Profound Yin Demon Sect, and after many Sixth Grade and Seventh Grade Sect Leaders and Elders perished, it has been thousands of years since the Western Region of the Central Divine Dynasty has witnessed such a grand commotion! Since they've come to join this 'excitement,' then let them pay a sufficient price! Our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect is one of the Immortal Sects with the longest heritage in the Western Region of the Central Divine Dynasty. However, due to the strict edicts of our Forefather, we haven't engaged in major hostilities with the surrounding Immortal Sects for several thousand years! It seems that because our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect hasn't fought anyone for millennia, they all think we're easy to bully!"

At this moment, facing the hundreds of Earth Immortals who arrived, obscuring the sky, although the many Earth Immortals and disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect revealed looks of apprehension, what filled their eyes even more was a surging battle intent! Witnessing this, Lin Xuankong couldn't help but nod inwardly, a hint of approval flickering in his eyes.

Suddenly, from beyond the Sect Protection Array of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, a burst of earth-shattering laughter suddenly erupted. Following this, from among the hundreds of Earth Immortals who had blotted out the sky, one figure—the tallest among them, fully five thousand zhang in height—accelerated while laughing heartily, and came to float above the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array! This individual wore an enormous mask, upon which flickered countless crimson flames. The Immortal Yuan Fluctuation emanating from him was exceptionally potent, giving him a rather enigmatic appearance.

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He looked down at the Thirty-Sixth Spirit Peak, sheltered beneath the Sect Protection Array of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. After a bout of wild laughter, he spoke:

"Sui He, the last time we met was during the great war between the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region and the Profound Yin Demon Sect. It has been five thousand, six hundred, and seventy-two years since then!

I had assumed that since you never managed to break through to the Sixth Grade, your Lifespan should have been exhausted by now. Unexpectedly, you old thing are still alive!

Not bad, not bad at all. That I, Duan Qianchou, having traveled from countless miles away, can still behold an old acquaintance with my own eyes—this can indeed be considered a joyous occasion!"

Seeing this, the white-haired and white-bearded Grand Elder Sui He immediately flew towards the protective energy barrier of the Sect Protection Array. As he continued to fly, the Immortal Yuan throughout his body surged, and his form steadily expanded, instantaneously reaching a height of over four thousand zhang.

Grand Elder Sui He raised his eyes to stare at Duan Qianchou, who floated above the Sect Protection Array, a flicker of disdain in his eyes.

"Thousands of years ago," he began, "the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect upheld stringent rules and acted with utmost propriety, showing the potential to become the First Immortal Sect of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region!

"Unfortunately, after that great war which engulfed all Five Domains of the Divine Dynasty of the Central Region, Sect Leader Zhang and several Grand Elders of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect perished. The sect then fell into your hands, you old reprobate!

"Since that time, the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, once lauded as the premier Immortal Sect of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region, has steadily declined. Moreover, due to its tyrannical and nefarious conduct, it has been ostracized by numerous other immortal sects. Today, the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect probably couldn't even rank among the top three in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region!

"You old fool, reducing the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect to its current, dilapidated state is truly shameful!"

"And now you have the gall to bring your disciples and followers to my Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect to flaunt your power? Tell me, after living for over ten thousand years, has your skin simply grown thicker, or have you lost all sense of shame?"

Upon hearing this, flames erupted from Duan Qianchou's face, its color shifting from red to a burning golden-crimson. This First Grand Elder of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect was clearly enraged. He shot a vicious glare at Grand Elder Sui He, then turned to an Earth Immortal in a Five-Colored Daoist Robe who had floated up from behind. Duan Qianchou sneered, "Five Elements Wanderer, do you see? This undying old fool, Sui He, even after thousands of years, still has such an uncouth manner! The Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect is on the brink of annihilation, yet he still has the audacity to spout such nonsense here!"

The Earth Immortal known as the Five Elements Wanderer possessed even more intense Immortal Yuan fluctuations. In fact, the Immortal Yuan fluctuations emanating from Duan Qianchou, the First Grand Elder of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, were noticeably, albeit faintly, suppressed by his.

Hearing Duan Qianchou's words, the Five Elements Wanderer lowered his gaze to Grand Elder Sui He, then flicked the horsetail duster in his hand, made a respectful salutation, and said, "Fellow Daoist Sui He, it has been over five thousand years. Your body appears not to have entirely decayed. It seems your Cultivation over these past five thousand years has led to further breakthroughs. You likely have a chance to reach Fifth Grade Perfection and successfully overcome the Celestial Tribulation to ascend to the Sixth Grade. If that is truly the case, then I must congratulate you in advance, Fellow Daoist Sui He!"

"I recall when you and I fought at Thousand Spirit Mountain. We stood united against a common foe, jointly slaying four Great Demons of the Profound Yin Demon Sect. We truly shared experiences of life and death. To see you again now, after all this time, truly brings some comfort to my heart!"

Sui He gazed at this Five Elements Wanderer, a clear trace of dread in his eyes.

Evidently, this Five Elements Wanderer, a Grand Elder of the Five Elements Immortal Sect, possessed greater strength and more formidable abilities than Grand Elder Duan Qianchou of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect.

Grand Elder Sui He remained silent for a moment, then sighed suddenly.

"Ah, that battle at Thousand Spirit Mountain... so many of our fellow Daoists from that day are now but withered bones in their graves! It is our good fortune to have survived until this day. Fellow Daoist of the Five Elements, of the many companions I had back then, you are one of the very few who still draw breath!

"Ordinarily, Fellow Daoist of the Five Elements, given you've traveled such an immense distance, I, Sui He, should throw open our sect gates and welcome you with full honors. Alas, Fellow Daoist of the Five Elements, the purpose of your current visit... it is something my Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect cannot possibly accept!"

Chapter 555: Hand Over Mu Shiba, The Terrifying Power of the Sect Protection Array

Speaking of the Five Elements Wanderer's purpose in coming here, Grand Elder Sui He's expression gradually changed. His brows rose, a hint of hesitation in his eyes as he began to speak, "Fellow Daoist Five Elements, if you still cherish the bond we forged fighting side-by-side in the past, how about you and your Five Elements Immortal Sect's Earth Immortals and disciples observe from the sidelines? I can promise on behalf of Tributor Mu of our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect that, should he find the time, he will undoubtedly refine an Initial Tier Immortal Artifact for you. Our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect will bear the cost of all necessary materials and compensation!"

With that, Grand Elder Sui He glanced at Lin Xuankong, an inquisitive look in his eyes.

From nearby, Lin Xuankong, having heard this, gave Grand Elder Sui He a slight nod.

Refining an Initial Tier Immortal Artifact is a trivial matter for me, something I can accomplish in a few Hours! More importantly, Grand Elder Sui He's ploy is clearly intended to sow discord between the Five Elements Immortal Sect and the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect. How could I possibly refuse? If this can divide our opponents, allowing us to avoid a major battle and the risk of revealing some of our trump cards, that would naturally be ideal!

At this thought, his eyes flickered, and he announced loudly, "Grand Elder Sui He, since this Fellow Daoist Five Elements is an old friend of yours, spanning thousands of years, offering a single Initial Tier Immortal Artifact makes our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect appear rather stingy. How about this: if Fellow Daoist Five Elements agrees not to ally with the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, I, Mu Shiba, guarantee

that I will refine five Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts within three years and present them to the Five Elements Immortal Sect!"

Five Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, offered so readily... When Lin Xuankong finished speaking, the expressions of the assembled cultivators shifted.

The disciples and Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect regarded Lin Xuankong with admiration, while some other cultivators quietly sighed in relief.

The Fire Spirit Immortal Sect had arrived this time with over three hundred Earth Immortals, a seemingly overwhelming force. However, the true powerhouse among them was the Five Elements Immortal Sect, which was steadily becoming the preeminent Immortal Sect in the Central Divine Dynasty! If 'Tributor Mu' could truly sway this Grand Elder of the Five Elements Immortal Sect with five Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, the pressure on the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect would diminish by at least a fifth!

Although the Earth Immortals and disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect were prepared for a great battle, fewer enemies were always preferable to more!

Lin Xuankong's words didn't just alter the expressions of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's cultivators; the Earth Immortals outside the Sect Protection Array, including those from the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, also couldn't help but react, their faces shifting.

The Five Elements Wanderer, clad in his Five-Colored Daoist Robe, also showed a flicker in his eyes, evidently tempted by the casual offer of five Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts.

Grand Elder Duan Qianchou of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect's expression changed drastically. A harsh glint in his eyes, he immediately retorted, "Brother Five Elements, that decrepit old Sui He is clearly spouting nonsense, and this Mu Shiba is just making grand, empty promises! Five Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts! We're talking about five of them! Even in the Central Earth of the Central Divine Dynasty, such items would incite fierce competition among the major Immortal Sects. They are incomparably precious treasures! How could this Mu Shiba and that decrepit old Sui He possibly give away resources so vital—capable of altering an Immortal Sect's entire strength—to another sect so casually?

In my opinion, that old fool Sui He is blatantly trying to sow division among us, employing such despicable tactics to sabotage our alliance! Moreover, Brother Five Elements, don't forget you pledged

before the Earth Immortals of our seventy-six Immortal Sects—all three hundred of them—that we would annihilate the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and bring Mu Shiba under the alliance's control! If you renege on your promise, I, Duan Qianchou, can assure you, the three hundred-odd Earth Immortals of this alliance certainly won't stand for it!"

Upon hearing this, the Five Elements Wanderer's brow furrowed, and his expression grew somber.

Grand Elder Sui He's expression shifted as well. His right hand was already touching the First-grade Immortal Artifact at his waist, a cold glint in his eyes as he stared at the Five Elements Wanderer.

After a moment of silence, a fierce light gradually filled the Five Elements Wanderer's eyes. He looked at Grand Elder Sui He and said in a low, heavy voice, "Fellow Daoist Sui He, since Duan Qianchou has laid it all out, I see no point in further discussion with your Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!"

At this juncture, the so-called First Grand Elder of the Five Elements Immortal Sect evidently saw no need for further pretense!

He paused, lifted the duster in his hand, and pointed it at Lin Xuankong. "This Mu Shiba's artifact refining techniques are something I, the Five Elements Wanderer, have never even heard of! Even the foremost Artifact Refining Master of the Divine Dynasty Immortal Sect in the Central Divine Dynasty is, at best, merely his equal! Therefore, my purpose in gathering everyone today is singular: Mu Shiba must leave the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and proceed to Thousand Spirit Mountain, the headquarters of our Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance. Henceforth, he shall refine one Initial Tier Immortal Artifact for every Immortal Sect in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region! After all, for your Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect to monopolize such an astonishing artifact refining genius is somewhat unjustifiable, wouldn't you agree? Rather than your Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect enjoying this benefit exclusively, it is far better for all the numerous Immortal Sects of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region to flourish together. This is the true path to growth and strength for us all! Fellow Daoist Sui He, this is the prevailing tide of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region! It is the cause of justice, the dictate of righteousness! It is not something your insignificant Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect can hope to resist!"

Hearing this, Lin Xuankong was practically dumbstruck. He stared at this First Grand Elder of the Five Elements Immortal Sect, on the verge of erupting with curses!

This old bastard is utterly shameless! He wants to control me, to force the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect to submit, yet he cloaks his intentions in such grandiose terms as 'justice' and 'righteousness'! Justice my foot! This Five Elements Wanderer is so hypocritical, so silver-tongued! He's even more revolting

than Duan River and Duan Qianchou from the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect. It's no wonder he's lived for over ten thousand years—a true old tortoise, an utter degenerate! Damn him!

Upon hearing this, Grand Elder Sui He's face had also become exceedingly grim. He tightened his grip on the First-grade Immortal Artifact in his hand and spoke in a frigid tone, "If that's the case, then there's no need for further talk! Let's settle this with our blades and see whether your so-called Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance is superior, or if the spirited Earth Immortals and disciples of my Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect will prove more formidable!"

Before his voice had even faded, the longsword-shaped First-grade Immortal Artifact shot from his hand. It quivered in the wind, instantly transforming into a brilliantly radiant Immortal Sword spanning a thousand feet!

Immediately after, the Sect Protection Array enveloping the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect above suddenly erupted with a series of intense buzzing sounds!

Nearly half of the Earth Immortals and disciples stationed across the various Spirit Peaks of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect began to pour their Immortal Yuan and True Qi into the Array Hub!

In the next instant, the Sect Protection Array unleashed an incredibly terrifying fluctuation of Immortal Yuan. In less than a hundredth of a breath, the scattered Immortal Yuan miraculously coalesced, writhing and contorting as if about to give birth to some horrifying entity!

Chapter 556: The Western Region Fallen Immortal War

Seeing this, the numerous Earth Immortals floating above the Sect Protection Array of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect all turned serious, prompting their respective Magical Artifacts, while a few even took out their personal Immortal Artifacts!

The Five Elements Wanderer flicked his duster and coldly shouted, "Fellow Daoists, the Sect Protection Array of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect was arranged long ago by the Spiritual Crane Ascendant and is capable of summoning the Tier Six Demon Crane King! The array hasn't fully activated yet; hurry and disrupt its operation!"

Before his words had even faded, Duan Qianchou, the Grand Elder of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect; Sect Leader Duan Baoming; Vice Sect Leader Duan He; and all the Earth Immortals of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect had already activated their Immortal Artifacts or Magical Artifacts. They summoned Immortal Tier

Flame Sparrows to spew terrifyingly hot flames at the Immortal Yuan condensation point of the Sect Protection Array!

The Earth Immortals from the Five Elements Immortal Sect, Profound Pure Immortal Sect, Guangqing Immortal Sect, and other Immortal Sects also activated their Magical Artifacts and Immortal Artifacts without hesitation, sending the massively enlarged instruments of war to attack the Sect Protection Array of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!

A minority of these Earth Immortals continually attacked the transparent shield of the Sect Protection Array, aiming to drain its power, while the majority targeted the Immortal Yuan condensation point of the Sect Protection Array!

In an instant, hundreds of Earth Immortals, each thousands of feet tall, wielded immense Magical Artifacts and Immortal Artifacts. This onslaught caused the Sect Protection Array shield of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect to tremble constantly. The enormous amount of Immortal Yuan the array had condensed was repeatedly dispersed, preventing the summoning of the Tier Six Spiritual Crane King!

This was a concentrated attack by hundreds of Earth Immortals. Even though most of them wielded High-Tier Spiritual Artifacts rather than the more fearsome Immortal Artifacts, the power these artifacts displayed when activated by Earth Immortals was incomparable to what Transcendence Realm Cultivators could achieve with them. Indeed, even the weakest First-Grade Earth Immortals, using Tier Nine Spiritual Artifacts, could exert hundreds of times the power that a Ninth-Layer Perfection Cultivator could muster with the same artifact!

Standing on the Thirty-Sixth Spirit Peak, Lin Xuankong watched the terrible ripples, explosive sounds, and multicolored lights emanating from the shield under the barrage of Magical Artifacts and Immortal Artifacts, a twinge of sentiment stirring in his heart.

If these thousands-of-feet-tall Earth Immortals were in my past life, they could have dominated the entire world with their physical bodies alone!

And that was just the power of their Immortal Bodies. The various Immortal Techniques they used with their artifacts multiplied their inherent power manyfold!

Yet, despite the joint assault of hundreds of Earth Immortals, the Sect Protection Array of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect kept trembling, but its transparent shield remained almost as thick as before!

If such attacks were concentrated on the body of a Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal, it would heavily injure them instantly. After all, this was the combined assault of hundreds of Earth Immortals, over thirty of whom were Fifth-Grade Earth Immortals!

This truly showcased the staggering defensive strength of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array. No wonder Sect Leader Li once told me it could withstand the assaults of a Sixth-Grade Earth Immortal! And no wonder Sect Leader Li and these Earth Immortals and disciples of the sect have such confidence to face this great battle!

Confronted with the attacks of hundreds of Earth Immortals, if the dozens of Earth Immortals and tens of thousands of disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect were to leave the Sect Protection Array and abandon this geographical advantage, they would likely be defeated in mere dozens of breaths, with most of them perishing!

This realization sparked a sudden interest in Lin Xuankong for the Array Formation Method of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect.

To think, a Grand Array alone can resist the attacks of hundreds of Earth Immortals, including dozens of Fifth-Grade Earth Immortals... If I could master such an Array Formation Method and set it up in my Ba Mountain Secret Realm, then my Secret Realm would truly be impregnable!

At this thought, Lin Xuankong felt a surge of eagerness. If not for this ongoing battle, I would probably leave the Thirty-Sixth Spirit Peak at once and head to the Ten Thousand Laws Pavilion of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect to peruse their Secret Manuals!

Standing beside Lin Xuankong, Young Lady Lii Xiaolan, Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er, and the others all wore worried expressions.

They had no idea that Lin Xuankong had already made thorough preparations for this battle. At this moment, watching the powerful Earth Immortals in the sky brandishing their Immortal Artifacts and Magical Artifacts, their faces turned pale. These were, after all, hundreds of Earth Immortals, each a

terrifying existence capable of overturning rivers and seas, and obliterating entire dynasties with a mere wave of their hand!

Meanwhile, the Earth Immortals and disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, watching their sect's Sect Protection Array being fiercely attacked, had faces filled with anger, their eyes burning with righteous fury!

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect suddenly boomed, "Disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect! The Five Elements Immortal Sect, Profound Pure Immortal Sect, Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, Guangqing Immortal Sect, and others have brazenly attacked our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect! Tell me, what should we do?"

Before his voice had even faded, the numerous Earth Immortals and tens of thousands of disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect erupted in a thunderous roar.

"Kill! Kill! Kill!"

"Exterminate these practitioners of the Evil Dao who dare to challenge our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!"

Chapter 557: The Western Region Fallen Immortal War_2

"Protect our Immortal Sect, eradicate the Evil Dao!"

The Earth Immortals and disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect roared as they activated their Immortal Yuan and True Qi, unleashing their weapons!

Instantly, tens of thousands of Magical Artifacts pierced through the Sect Protection Array's energy shield, striking at the hundreds of Earth Immortals who were assaulting the array!

The Sect Protection Array of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect was indeed profound. It could withstand the attacks from the hundreds of Earth Immortals, preventing their Immortal Artifacts and Magical Artifacts from breaching its energy shield. Yet, it did not hinder the attacks from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's own Earth Immortals and disciples in the slightest. The Magical Artifacts they activated passed through the Sect Protection Array's energy shield as if moving through air, completely unaffected and without any reduction in speed!

At the same time, Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, the three Supreme Elders, the two Vice Sect Leaders, and Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er all activated their Immortal Artifacts, launching attacks towards the Earth Immortals in the sky.

In that instant, tens of thousands of Magical Artifacts and Immortal Artifacts, varying in size and shape, ascended at terrifying speeds. They created countless ripples in the air as they shot towards the hundreds of Earth Immortals in the sky! This scene possessed a violent beauty, like tens of thousands of intercontinental missiles with sky-piercing tail flames streaking across the heavens.

Although the hundreds of Earth Immortals attacking the Sect Protection Array possessed towering bodies, thousands of feet tall, they dared not underestimate this earth-shattering assault. They quickly recalled their own Magical Artifacts to counter the tens of thousands of attacks hurtling towards them.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

With earth-shaking roars, it seemed as if the entire world in the vicinity was on the verge of collapse!

Countless Magical Artifacts collided. The impact tore the sky apart, creating numerous dark cracks. These were spatial rifts, formed as space itself shattered under the terrifying might!

Most terrifyingly, after the countless Magical Artifacts had collided for some ten breaths, the sky above the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array, over a range of hundreds of miles, completely shattered. It transformed into vast, black spatial rifts of utter nothingness!

If an ordinary Transcendent Realm Cultivator were to stand within these spatial rifts above the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, they would be devoured instantaneously, their very Divine Soul obliterated into nothingness! Even though the hundreds of cultivators floating in the sky were the invading Earth Immortals, and their Immortal Bodies were exceedingly strong, they still had to activate their Immortal Yuan to protect themselves. This was to avoid potential injuries from prolonged exposure to the devouring power of the spatial rifts.

However, these intruders were all true Earth Immortals, the weakest among them being First-Grade Earth Immortals. The power of their attacks, unleashed after activating their Magical Artifacts and

Immortal Artifacts, far surpassed anything the disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect could hope to match.

After the initial ferocious barrage from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Earth Immortals and disciples began to lose momentum, many of the disciples' Magical Artifacts were struck down by those wielded by the hundreds of invading Earth Immortals. The True Qi controlling these artifacts was extinguished. After about twenty more breaths, nearly half of the flying Magical Artifacts had been shot down by the hundreds of Earth Immortals. Only some High-Tier Magical Artifacts were left, barely holding on.

The Five Elements Wanderer, who had yet to make a move, gazed at the Initial-Tier Immortal Artifacts activated by Sect Leader Li and the others. A flash of greed flickered in his eyes as he lightly swung his duster and shouted coldly, "Fellow Daoists, the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect publicly claims to possess only one First-grade Immortal Artifact. However, I know they actually have two! And now, their Earth Immortals have activated eight or nine Initial-Tier Immortal Artifacts! These Initial-Tier Immortal Artifacts are clearly crafted by that Mu Shiba. This proves Fellow Daoist Duan He of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect was absolutely correct! Fellow Daoists, let us attack these eight or nine Initial-Tier Immortal Artifacts together! Once we extinguish the Immortal Yuan controlling them, whoever seizes an artifact can claim it as their own!"

When the Five Elements Wanderer, the implicit leader of the Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance, spoke, the hundreds of massive Earth Immortals immediately widened their eyes, which were dozens of feet in diameter.

The next moment, the Immortal Yuan fluctuations around these Earth Immortals intensified dramatically. They directed all their Magical Artifacts to attack the eight or nine Immortal Artifacts activated by the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Earth Immortals! They even began to ignore the disciples' Magical Artifacts aimed at their Immortal Bodies. In their eagerness, dozens of Earth Immortals went as far as to activate their Earth Immortal Golden Cores. These transformed into streaks of light, blazing towards the Immortal Artifacts with speeds rivaling the Immortal Artifacts themselves!

These were Initial-Tier Immortal Artifacts! Possessing one would be akin to having a second Golden Core, effectively multiplying their combat power several times over. How could these Earth Immortals not be filled with hope, eagerness, and immense greed?

In the blink of an eye, the Initial-Tier Immortal Artifacts activated by Sect Leader Li, the three Grand Elders, and the two Vice Sect Leaders of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect found themselves besieged. They were surrounded by a deluge of countless Magical Artifacts, several other Immortal Artifacts, and dozens of Golden Cores. The Initial-Tier Immortal Artifacts of Sect Leader Li and the others flew at

terrifying speeds, their attack power tens, even hundreds, of times greater than ordinary Magical Artifacts. However, now that they were being specifically targeted by these hundreds of Earth Immortals, the eight or nine Initial-Tier Immortal Artifacts were continuously struck. The Immortal Yuan fluctuations on them grew increasingly faint!

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Seeing this scene, the Earth Immortals besieging the Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts became even more excited, intensifying their attacks!

The Grand Elder of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, Duan Qianchou, was urging an Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, the Fire Spirit Cauldron, summoning a terrifying Fifth Grade Flame Sparrow that constantly pursued the First-Grade Immortal Artifact controlled by Elder Sui He.

Duan Qianchou laughed boisterously while channeling his artifact, "HAHAHAHA, Old Ghost Su He, your First-Grade Immortal Sword has been renowned in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region for thousands of years! You've always looked down on my Fire Spirit Cauldron because of this Immortal Artifact. Now, this First-Grade Immortal Artifact is destined to fall into my hands, HAHAHAHA!"

Flame Saber Duan River, standing beside Duan Qianchou, saw this, and his expression shifted. He immediately urged his Flame Saber to coordinate with his sect's Grand Elder, saying quite sycophantically, "Grand Elder Qianchou is truly wise and mighty! When that Old Ghost Su He rampaged through the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region back then, he could never have imagined he would fall to such a state, his entire sect on the verge of being wiped out by our Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and our fellow Daoists!"

Hearing this, Duan Qianchou laughed even louder. He nodded repeatedly and declared, "Little River is right! These Earth Immortals and disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect have always been a scourge upon the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region. Countless cultivators have been killed by their Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect! This time, fellow Daoists from our Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, the Five Elements Immortal Sect, the Profound Pure Immortal Sect, the Guangqing Immortal Sect, and other allied Immortal Sects have all gathered. We will definitely root out this greatest cancer of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region! This will allow the many law-abiding cultivators in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region to see clear skies once more, no longer suffering the oppression of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!"

The besieging Earth Immortals roared with laughter upon hearing this.

"HAHAHA, eradicate the Immortal Realm's cancer, the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect! Lay waste to the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!"

"Elder Duan is absolutely right! These scourges from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect are utterly shameless. We must seek justice for the cultivators who died so tragically at their hands!"

"HAHAHA, that Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect must be kept alive. Her sins are too heinous for a simple death! She must refine pills for the cultivators of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region for ten thousand years to atone for her crimes!"

"HAHAHAHA, in my opinion, the male cultivators of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect must have their souls extracted and refined, and the female cultivators must be turned into puppets! Only then can we truly vent the fury in the hearts of the cultivators of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region!"

Taking advantage of lulls in the siege, these hundreds of Earth Immortals chimed in one after another, laughing wildly.

Standing on the Thirty-Sixth Spirit Peak of the Immortal Sect, Lin Xuankong felt his hair stand on end at this scene.

The Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and these other shameless Immortal Sects have become the heroes of the Central Divine Dynasty, while the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect is branded as sinful and shameless by them? Can Immortals truly be so devoid of shame? Are most of the Earth Immortals in the Western Region of the Central Divine Dynasty actually this shameless? What a complete reversal of black and white!

Just as he was thinking this, over a dozen streams of light suddenly shot over from the east. These were clearly over a dozen First-Grade and Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts!

These Immortal Artifacts crossed a hundred li in an instant, striking more than ten Earth Immortals who were channeling their Golden Cores to attack other Immortal Artifacts!

These more than ten Earth Immortals, because they were fully channeling their Golden Cores, had not used Immortal Yuan to protect their bodies. Thus, when they were suddenly struck by the terrifying

attacks of the Immortal Artifacts, despite possessing Earth Immortal Bodies, they were directly pierced. Half of their bodies completely shattered!

Those were colossal Immortal Bodies, each thousands of zhang in size. With half of each Immortal Body shattered, they turned into fragments of flesh and Immortal blood, fluttering down from the high heavens!

This scene was like a pervasive rain of blood falling from the high heavens—and it was a rain of Immortal blood!

"AAAAAH!!!" Ear-piercing screams, shaking the heavens and the earth, burst from the mouths of those more than ten Earth Immortals!

However, before they could activate their Magical Artifacts for protection, a thunderous cry suddenly erupted from the Sect Protection Array of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect.

Immediately after, a Spiritual Crane with a wingspan of nearly twenty thousand zhang, emitting terrifying fluctuations, appeared from the Sect Protection Array of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!

Apparently, this Spiritual Crane, brought into existence by the Array, had finally condensed because those hundreds of Earth Immortals had diverted their attention!

This Sixth Grade Array Spirit Crane, upon appearing, fiercely flapped its wings. Moving at a horrifying speed, it approached the vicinity of those more than ten injured Earth Immortals.

In the next instant, with a loud BOOM, the Sixth Grade Array Spirit Crane actually self-detonated right in the midst of those more than ten Earth Immortals!

This was a Sixth Grade Spiritual Crane. Even though it was condensed from the Array's Immortal Yuan and was not a true Sixth Grade Demon King—lacking a Demon King's true spiritual intelligence and Demon Techniques—its Immortal Yuan was comparable to that of a Sixth Grade Demon King. How terrifying would the might of such an entity's self-detonation be?

Instantly, the entire sky lit up brilliantly, as if hundreds of thousands of suns had risen simultaneously above the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. Even the Earth Immortals and Immortal Sect disciples had to quickly close their eyes, unable to withstand such terrifying brightness!

And those more than ten Earth Immortals, already injured, were completely annihilated within a thousandth of a breath! Their exceptionally sturdy Immortal Bodies ultimately could not withstand the power of such a potent entity's self-detonation...

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These dozen or so Earth Immortals didn't even have time to scream, nor did their Divine Souls have time to transfer to their Golden Cores. Their Immortal Bodies were instantly annihilated, and their Divine Souls utterly obliterated!

The aftermath of the explosion sent the hundreds of other Earth Immortals retreating in horror.

Even Grand Elder Five Elements Wanderer of the Five Elements Immortal Sect and Grand Elder Duan Qianchou of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect showed slight changes in expression. They hastily activated their Immortal Artifacts, holding them defensively as they retreated tens of thousands of feet.

In the next moment, the entire sky suddenly turned blood-red.

Eerie wails emanated from high above, as if the heavens themselves mourned the simultaneous fall of over a dozen Earth Immortals.

"Immortal fall! This is a true immortal fall! They died without even having time to transfer their Divine Souls! So what if they're Earth Immortals, hailed as nearly unkillable? How could Second- and Third-Grade Earth Immortals possibly withstand the might of our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array!"

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect activated his Immortal Artifact, a proud gleam in his eyes.

A flicker of caution arose in Lin Xuankong's heart.

That scene had unfolded too quickly. The Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array had summoned a Sixth-Grade Spirit Crane whose attack speed and method were utterly terrifying. If I had been where those dozen or so Earth Immortals were, I likely couldn't have withstood that kind of assault!

However, part of the reason was the excessive greed of those Earth Immortals; they had directly ejected their Golden Cores from their bodies. Otherwise, even if their Immortal Bodies couldn't withstand the force of the Sixth-Grade Spirit Crane's self-destruction and they suffered grievous injuries, they should have been able to survive by immersing their Divine Souls into their nearly indestructible Golden Cores. At worst, their Immortal Bodies would have been destroyed, and they would merely have had to start their cultivation anew as Initial Tier Earth Immortals!

If I become an Initial Tier Earth Immortal in the future, I absolutely must not recklessly eject my Golden Core like those Earth Immortals did. While an externalized Golden Core might possess offensive power and speed comparable to an Immortal Artifact, the danger during combat increases dramatically once it leaves the body!

Watching this battle between the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and hundreds of Earth Immortals has provided me with some valuable experience for my own future confrontations with Earth Immortals...

While Lin Xuankong was lost in thought, the hundreds of Earth Immortals had already regrouped.

However, these hundreds of Earth Immortals now looked at the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array with expressions of unease, clearly still shaken by the terrifying self-destructive attack of the Sixth-Grade Spirit Crane moments before.

The Earth Immortals, who had been brimming with confidence just a few dozen breaths prior, had now lost all trace of their earlier arrogance.

Just then, Five Elements Wanderer of the Five Elements Immortal Sect suddenly sneered,

"Hmph, truly worthy of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, which rampages across the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region. The attack from that Sixth-Grade Spirit Crane, part of this Sect Protection Array, was nearly as powerful as a full-strength strike from a Sixth-Grade Earth Immortal!

That kind of Sixth-Grade Spirit Crane attack can only be unleashed once... Now, even the Immortal Yuan fluctuations from this Sect Protection Array have diminished by a full half. It will be exceedingly difficult for them to defend against the attacks of our several hundred comrades next!"

Nearby, Grand Elder Duan Qianchou of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect listened, then carefully extended his senses. A moment later, his eyes lit up, and a joyful expression spread across his face.

He clearly felt no sorrow over the deaths of more than ten of his fellow Earth Immortals. Instead, he was ecstatic that the power of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array had diminished!

The hundreds of Earth Immortals, whose faces had been etched with dread just moments before, now showed expressions of joy after hearing Five Elements Wanderer's words and mulling them over.

Five Elements Wanderer of the Five Elements Immortal Sect then turned his head eastward, a ruthless glint in his eyes.

"Beimang Immortal Sect, West Star Immortal Sect, Western Nether Immortal Sect, Wine Immortal Sect! Since you four sects intend to aid the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, why not dispatch several dozen Earth Immortals? Why send merely these ten-odd individuals for a sneak attack? Are you planning one wave of attacks before offering up your heads?"

Chapter 560: The True Strength of the Five Elements Wanderer

Many Earth Immortals had already noticed the eastern direction. They turned to look, their eyes filling with a cold glint. If it hadn't been for the sudden sneak attack from the east, those dozen or so Earth Immortals wouldn't have died immediately. Perhaps some of them could have survived the self-detonation of the Sixth-Grade Spirit Crane! Most importantly, a majority of the sects in the so-called Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance were similar to the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, employing ruthless methods. They had always held grudges against the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, the Beimang Immortal Sect, the Western Nether Immortal Sect, and the West Star Immortal Sect, having secretly fought each other for hundreds, even thousands, of years. Now that these enemies met again, their eyes were naturally red with fury!

The Five Elements Wanderer continued coldly, "Since you have killed the dozen or so Earth Immortals from our Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance, Chi Liuxia, Guo Haishan, you lot will pay with your lives!"

To the east of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array, a dozen or so Earth Immortals were already floating in. They were from the Beimang Immortal Sect, the Western Nether Immortal Sect, the West Star Immortal Sect, and the Wine Immortal Sect, all of which had close ties with the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. These Earth Immortals, including Chi Liuxia and Guo Haishan, had naturally come to help after hearing from Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect that the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect was gathering many Earth Immortal Techniques to attack the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. However, events had unfolded too rapidly, and these Immortal Sects were extremely far from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. Therefore, even though these four Immortal Sects were comparable in strength to the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, possessing dozens of Earth Immortals and tens of thousands of disciples, they simply couldn't mobilize everyone in time. In their urgency, they had only managed to summon the dozen or so fellow Earth Immortals who were traveling nearby!

At this moment, hundreds of Earth Immortals, surging with killing intent and led by the Five Elements Wanderer, Duan Qianchou, and others, activated their movement techniques. They closed in on those dozen or so Earth Immortals at an extremely terrifying speed! These were hundreds of true Earth Immortals, the weakest among them being genuine First-Grade Earth Immortals. Even though Chi Liuxia and the others were extremely strong, faced with these hundreds of Earth Immortals, they had no choice but to retreat rapidly!

As they retreated swiftly, the Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia laughed heartily and said, "Five Elements brat, I've long found you an eyesore! I just never imagined that the Five Elements Immortal Sect, hailed as the First Immortal Sect of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region, would actually stoop to mingling with the shameless and despicable Fire Spirit Immortal Sect! This truly surprises me! If the ancestors and numerous seniors of your Five Elements Immortal Sect knew you'd actually do such a thing, they'd probably be rolling in their graves!"

Guo Haishan and the other Earth Immortals also burst into laughter upon hearing this. However, facing the hundreds of Earth Immortals swarming towards them like a sky-blotting wave, they didn't dare to linger for even a moment amidst their derision. Each of them activated their Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts and retreated into the distance at full speed.

The Five Elements Wanderer of the Five Elements Immortal Sect, hearing the Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia's words and seeing those dozen or so Earth Immortals rapidly retreating, steadied his form and stopped in mid-air, then raised his hand. The hundreds of Earth Immortals who had been pursuing those dozen or so Earth Immortals with the Five Elements Wanderer immediately channeled their Immortal Yuan and halted in mid-air. Evidently, the Five Elements Immortal Sect, which had faintly become recognized as the First Immortal Sect of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region, still held extremely strong influence over the Earth Immortals of these seventy-odd Evil Immortal Sects.

Duan Qianchou, the Grand Elder of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, stared with a grim face at the gradually distant figures of the Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia and the others, hissing hatefully, "If those dozen or so fellow Daoists hadn't been ambushed by Chi Liuxia and his group, how could they have died so directly? Furthermore, this Chi Liuxia has insulted you, fellow Daoist, so grievously! How can we let these dozen or so gutless rats escape!"

The surrounding Earth Immortals also had grim expressions. They were clearly infuriated by the sneak attack from Chi Liuxia and his group, wishing they could pursue them immediately.

The Grand Elder of the Five Elements Immortal Sect, the Five Elements Wanderer, gazed at Chi Liuxia and his group, already distant on the horizon. His face was grim as he shook his head and said, "Fellow Daoists, our purpose in coming here this time is to eradicate the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, which runs rampant in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region. How can we allow these dozen or so rats to disrupt our rhythm? If we pursue them now and waste some time, reinforcements from the Beimang Immortal Sect, the Western Nether Immortal Sect, and other such Immortal Sects might arrive. Although the strength of these few Immortal Sects is far from enough to contend with our righteous army of several hundred Earth Immortals, once a large battle breaks out, perhaps even more fellow Daoists will be injured or even perish! The most pressing matter now is to quickly destroy the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array and immediately annihilate the shameless scoundrels of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect! When we've obtained the Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts from these shameless scoundrels of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, then dealing with those four gutless Immortal Sects will absolutely be like adding wings to a tiger. It will also reduce the majority of our casualties!"

Upon hearing this, the expressions of the several hundred Earth Immortals immediately shifted. Although their seventy-odd Immortal Sects had gathered a force of over three hundred Earth Immortals, when it came to the strength of individual Immortal Sects, apart from the Five Elements Immortal Sect, the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, the Profound Pure Immortal Sect, and the Guangqing Immortal Sect, the others were far inferior compared to the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect or the Beimang Immortal Sect. The reason they dared to come along was naturally because this operation was spearheaded by the Five Elements Immortal Sect and the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect. These two had promised their seventy-odd allied Immortal Sects that each sect would receive at least two Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts. If not for this, how would they dare to move against the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect?

Upon hearing this, a fierce glint appeared on the face of Duan Qianchou, the Grand Elder of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect. "Senior Brother Five Elements is indeed meticulous. Good, let's continue to deal with the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array!" After speaking, he turned to Sect Leader Duan and Vice Sect Leader Duan He of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect beside him and said, "You two, take thirty Earth Immortals and keep an eye on Chi Liuxia and his group!"

「Moments later,」

These hundreds of Earth Immortals mounted their clouds one after another and once again flew above the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array. However, as they looked at this powerful array, which they had attacked for dozens of breaths yet still showed little sign of weakening, a hint of anxiety appeared on the faces of the many Earth Immortals.

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, activating his Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, pointed it towards Duan Qianchou of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and the others, declaring, "My Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array was laid down by our Sect Founder. Furthermore, it has been reinforced by several generations of my Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Leaders and countless Earth Immortals over tens of thousands of years. Forget about you three hundred or so people; even if another three hundred Earth Immortals were to come, it would still be futile!"

Upon hearing this, those several hundred Earth Immortals, including Duan Qianchou of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, all revealed fierce expressions. They offered no reply, merely channeling power into the Magical Artifacts and Immortal Artifacts in their hands, continuously attacking the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array. Unfortunately, even as the numerous Earth Immortals activated their Immortal Yuan and attacked with all their might, the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array only trembled slightly, showing absolutely no signs of being weakened!

「Dozens of breaths later,」

Among the many Earth Immortals, the Five Elements Wanderer, Grand Elder of the Five Elements Immortal Sect—the only one who had been standing idly by—suddenly had a fierce glint flash in his eyes. He stared intently at Lin Xuankong within the Sect Protection Array, then suddenly raised his hand. In that instant, a stream of Spiritual Light shot out, transforming into a giant Spirit Talisman, a thousand feet long and a hundred feet wide! Light flashed upon the Spirit Talisman, and it was covered with hundreds of millions of Runes. These Runes continuously writhed within the Spiritual Light, as if they possessed life and consciousness! The many Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect standing beside Lin Xuankong, including their strongest, Grand Elder Sui He, all had their expressions change upon seeing this Spirit Talisman, as if they had encountered something extremely terrifying!